ALAM): (a) to (d) The post of Director, NICD, Delhi which fell vacant on 1-1-88 is at present being looked after by the Director (Microbiology), NICD pending selection of a regular incumbent through Union Public Service Commission. The post stand included in the Supertime grade of the Public Health Specialist Sub-Cadre of the CHS. The question of throwing it open to all Specialists was considered but it has since been decided to allow it to remain in the Public Health Sub-Cadre. A meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee is being convened shortly in the Union Public Service Commission to fill up the post on regular basis.

Establishment Satellite Earth Station at Bhubaneswar

2617. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an inordinate delay in the establishment of Satellite Earth Station at Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite implementation of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) An earth station at Bhubaneswar has already been established and is operational since 18-7-82.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Telecom Equipment Factories

2618. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to set up four telecom equipment factories in the country;

(b) if so, the places identified for their location;

(c) the estimated cost of each of these factories; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite implementation of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of Malaria Eradication Programme in States

2619. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Malaria Eradication Programme has not been implemented in many States due to which Malaria has not been eradicated all over the country;

(b) whether Government have identified lapses in the implementation of this programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government launched a Modified Plan of Operation in 1977 for control of Malaria. From 6.47 million cases recorded in 1976, the cases declined to 1.78 million (Provisonal) in 1988. However, there has been increase in malaria cases in some parts of the country. The increase of Malaria cases in these areas are due to Administrative, operational and Technical reasons.

Infant Mortality Rate during the Seventh Five Year Plan

2620. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any estimates on the infant mortality

rate in each State, during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the specific steps taken to check infant mortality rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Infant Mortality Rate is obtained from Registrar General of India on the basis of Samples Registration survey and the latest estimates at the National and the State level relate to the year 1987. The estimates of infant mortality rate at the National and State level during the first 3 years of 7th Five Year Plan have been given below:—

States	1985	1986	1987
Andhra Pradesh	83	82	79
Assam	111	109	102
Bihar	106	101	101
Gujarat	98	107	97
Haryana	85	85	87
Himachal Pradesh	84	88	82
Jammu & Kashmir	85	81	71
Karnataka	69	73	75
Kerala	31	27	28
Madhya Pradesh	122	118	120
Maharashtra	68	63	66
Orissa	132	123	126
Punjab	71	68	62
Rajasthan	108	107	102
Tamil Nadu	81	80	76
Uttar Pradesh	142	132	127
West Bengal	74	71	71
INDIA	97	96	95

(c) The steps taken by the Government to reduce infant mortality include a massive programme for training of traditional birth attendants, improvement of health infrastructure, training of health manpower, intensification of MCH Programme and health education, universal immunisation of children, propagation of oral rehydrationtherapy to combat diarrhoeal diseases, promotion of breast feeding and proper weaning practices, scheme for prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia and supplementary nutrition under the ICDS.

Setting up of Electronic Telephone Exchange at Vasco-De-Gama

2621. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need for an electronic Telephone Exchange at Vasco-de-Gama in Goa;